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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union  
(ILGWU)

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12-31-1926

## Justice (Vol. 8, Iss. 53)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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## Justice (Vol. 8, Iss. 53)

### Keywords

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

### Comments

*Justice* was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

"My righteousness  
I hold fast,  
and will not let  
it go."

—Job 23

# JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

"Workers  
of the world  
unite! You  
have nothing to  
lose but your  
chains."

Vol. VIII. No. 53.

NEW YORK, N. Y., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1926

PRICE 3 CENTS

## Toronto I.L.G.W. Members Defeat Communists

Polskoff Negotiates New Agreement With Embroiderers' Ass'n

The Communist group, which for a while raised its head among the Toronto cloakmakers and made enough noise to make believe some innocents that the rank and file of the cloakmakers of that city were with them, suffered a decisive defeat last Monday night, December 27, at a general election of officers.

The meeting took place in the Cloakmakers' Union, Local 14. Prior to the voting the Communists had boasted that they had the election sewed up and stowed away in their vest pockets. The returns, however, showed that they were snuffed under by the vote of the trade unionists. The Communist chairman of the local, S. Shur, and his assistant were decisively defeated by Charles Shatz and Hyman Reingold, for chairman and vice-chairman, respectively.

Bro. Sol Polskoff, manager of the Toronto Joint Board, at present visit.

(Continued on Page 2)

## Communist 'Peace' Overtures Spurned by International

Effort to Divert International Form Its Program Branded as Insincere, Mischievous and Futile.

The International Union, speaking through President Sigman, this week rejected the suit for peace initiated by the deposed Communist leadership of the disastrous 25-week New York cloakmakers' strike.

Thus a committee of 50 alleged cloak chairmen, picked at a meeting Monday night, packed with Communists from various unions, not a part of the International, overtures were being made to divert the International from its program of ridding the union of its Communist Party controlled elements. Under such a guise of non-partisanship, Pres. Sigman charged, "this Communist hand-picked committee, under threat of splitting the Union, is suing for peace."

"To the discredited Communist misleaders," Pres. Sigman declared, "we say: 'Hands off.' They, who have almost wrecked our Union and visited suffering and anguish on 25,000 cloakmakers during their conduct of the strike, are playing brother, probably their last, card in the 'peace overtures' they are now making to the International Union and the rank and file of our Union who are through with them."

"With the ineffectual threat that they will split our Union unless we take them back into the bosom of our family, they are now suing for peace. We say, keep out and stay out. They are therefore trying to creep back to power, after their deposition, and we say to them that the cloak and dress makers will not be charmed by the poison of their soft words, or their seductive phrases. The cost has been too great, the mischief too incalculable, for our Union to treat with them, except as dangerous snakes who must

## Woll, Frayne Pledge A. F. of L. Support at Cooper Union Meeting

Spokesmen for Federation Attack Communist Union Wreckers in Speeches at Installation Meeting of Local 10.

Full support to the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union in its fight against the Communist officials recently ousted by the C. G. E. R. from leadership in the cloak and dress organizations in New York, was promised on Monday night, December 27, at a huge meeting of members of Local 10, the cutters' organization, called in Cooper Union to install the newly elected officers of that local.

The meeting was one of the finest ever held under the auspices of the cutters' union. The hall was crowded to an overflow, and the cutters repeatedly voiced enthusiastic approval of their re-elected officers who were seated on the platform. The principal speakers of the evening were Matthew Woll, Hugh Frayne, President Morris

Sigman and manager David Dubinsky of Local 10. The officers were installed by John C. Ryan, one of the oldest members of the Union, who administered the oath. A resolution to support the International was adopted by a rising vote amidst a storm of cheers. A similar resolution was adopted by a rising vote thanking the leaders of the A. F. of L. for their warm support.

Frayne Warns Disrupters

"The Communists," said Hugh Frayne, New York State organizer for the A. F. of L., "will, before the end of 1927, find that they can no longer 'bore from within.' They will have to get out of our unions and, bore from without. The Federation is in thorough accord with the International Union's effort to build up the organization to the place it once occupied in the trade union movement, before it was all but destroyed by the Communists. We say to the Communists, some of whom may happen to be workers, that while the Federation is reluctant to become involved in a fight where workers are

(Continued on Page 2)

## Members of Dressmakers' Local 22 Receive Registration Card

Removed Officials Notified to Surrender Property and Records.

In conformity with the decision adopted by the General Executive Board of the I. L. G. W. U. last week to reorganize Local 22, President Sig-

man made public on Sunday, December 26, a proclamation and a manifesto sent to all the members of the dressmakers' organization calling upon them to register at appointed halls with the reorganized International Local. The declaration sets forth the reasons why the International Union felt it its duty to undertake the step at this moment—to save the dressmakers' union from the consequences of the criminal blunders of Communist policy and to avert the general strike in the industry which the "educational league" appears to be so eager to force upon the dressmakers.

The manifesto deals with the dues.

(Continued on Page 2)

## "Impartial Election" Scheme Denounced As Fraud

American Civil Liberties Disavow Being Party to Scheme.

The American Civil Liberties Union will not countenance the use of its name in connection with the so-called "impartial elections" planned by the deposed Communist officials of Locals 2, 9 and 35 of the Cloakmakers' Union. Arthur Garfield Hays, prominent attorney and influential member of the Civil Liberties Union executive board, assured President Morris Sigman of the International Union this week.

Despite the fact that the three local unions are now functioning under provisional International executive boards following the disastrous 25 weeks' cloak strike led by the Communists, costing the union over \$2,000,000 and the workers the loss of a complete season and of \$120,000,000 in wages, the side-tracked officials have been trying to use the name and reputation of the civil liberties' group to bolster their fallen fortunes by having the liberal group supervise an "election" in which thousands of cloakmakers, already registered with the International, would not participate. The result of this so-

called election would then be announced as a victory for the deposed leadership. Hays declared that the American Civil Liberties Union does

(Continued on page 2)

## Cloakmaker Assailed by Communist Furriers

Held in \$10,000 Bail for Assault on Member of Local 35.

A Communist alliance with underworld characters, in a desperate effort to retaliate against the ouster of Communist officials from control of the New York Cloakmakers' Union, was charged by President Morris Sigman this Tuesday, December 28, after it became known that two Communist followers belonging to the furriers' organization were held in \$10,000 bail each for Grand Jury action for an attack on a cloakmaker, a member of the Pressers' Union, Local 35. The cloakmaker is Abraham Cohen.

He was set upon by Morris Lederfeld and Joe Weiss and administered a severe beating on Sixth Avenue between 24th and 25th Streets on December 3, merely because he justified the ouster of Communist officials in the cloak union following the disastrous 25-week strike. Cohen left the hospital three days ago. Lederfeld and Weiss were arrested as they were running from the scene. Magistrate Reand, sitting in Jefferson Market Court, was shocked by the brutal beating.

(Continued on Page 2)

## Bond Salesmen For 'Cloak Strike' Branded as Fakers

Emissaries Selling "Bonds" for "Cloak Strike" Are Impostors, Says President Sigman.

In a letter, addressed to all the locals of the I. L. G. W. U., dated December 28, Secretary-Treasurer Baroff, issued a warning to cloakmakers and dressmakers all over the country to be on guard against solicitors attempting to sell bonds "under the pretense that the money is to aid the New York cloak strike."

"This bond issue," Secretary Baroff informed the locals, "was never authorized by the International and the purpose for which it is being floated is entirely false. The strike in the New York cloak market is now practically over, and whatever remnant of it still continues, is being taken care of by the International office. We would ask you therefore to ignore the request to purchase these 'bonds.'"

Simultaneously, President Sigman pointed out that members of the Communist Party, posing as "cloakmakers' representatives," were scouring the country to raise funds for the defunct leadership under the guise of getting financial aid for a strike, no longer being waged.

"Messrs. H. Castrell, Dr. Glauberman, S. Siegel and M. Steinberg," declared President Sigman, "have been announced as envoys to the various

(Continued on Page 2)

## A. F. of L. Heads Pledge Support To International

(Continued from Page 1)

concerned, it will not hesitate to attack its enemies wherever they might be."

Referring to the Communists who had called out the cloakmakers on strike last July, he said they appeared to him like "mushrooms that grow up in the night," and added that "any fool can call a strike, but it takes brains to settle it."

"From today, let your slogan be loyalty and devotion to your International Union, to the parent organization which defends your interests and is fighting for your economic welfare and for the welfare of those who depend on you, Frayne concluded.

### Matthew Well Exposes Communist Craft

Matthew Well, Vice-president of the A. F. of L. who followed Frayne, launched a scathing attack upon the Communists in the cloak, dress and the fur workers' organizations. "I was amazed," he declared, "at the corruption in the fur industry, which has taken root under the lead of the Communists in the cloak industry as well. The facts in connection with the fur strike of last summer will soon be made public by President William Green, and when they are published they will astound the workers and will serve to tear down the mask of the Communists and will expose them in all their ugliness. These fellows who come to you pretending that they wish to purify our labor movement have committed the most shameful crimes and their graft and corruption knows no limitation.

"These fellows who claim to be bringing light into our movement prefer to do their work in the dark. I should like to know why these Communists, the followers of Foster, like so well to work as spies in our midst. Are they afraid of the light of day? Are their methods of stabbing in the back the methods of 'light and education'?" "Your fight is a fight for an open and a free union. You are fighting against domination by a corrupt and sinister gang, and in this fight you have the full support of the American Federation of Labor. I congratulate you upon your clear and courageous stand and the service you are rendering thereby to our whole movement."

Well was frequently interrupted by vociferous applause. President Sigman who arrived toward the end of the

meeting, in a brief talk, called upon the cutters to spread the true issues of the fight among the workers in the other crafts and together with them form a solid wall of opposition to the schemings of the disrupters.

Here is the full text of the resolution adopted by the Cooper Union meeting of the cutters' organization:

### Resolution

WHEREAS, the deposed leaders of the Joint Board, acting under the orders of the Communist Party, had plunged the cloak industry into a ruinous and brutally mismanaged strike, which all but destroyed the great cloakmakers' organization in New York and engulfed our members in despair and misery,

AND WHEREAS, in order to rescue our union from the grasp of an outside political clique and to repair the damage caused by its misconduct of the ill-fated strike, the General Executive Board of the I. L. G. W. U. had, in a declaration issued on December 13, 1926, assumed full leadership and control over the cloak and dress locals affiliated with the Joint Board and over the strike with the aim in view toward bringing it to a satisfactory liquidation and to eliminate Communist Party control from it, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that we, the members of the Amalgamated Ladies Cutters Union, Local No. 10, in meeting assembled on Monday, December 27, 1926 in Cooper Union, New York City, do hereby pledge our full support to the International in its present great effort to rebuild our Union and to bring it back to its former prestige and standing as a true defender of the economic interests of our workers and to put an end to the dishonest exploitation of our workers by the Communist politicians, and be it further

RESOLVED, that we delegate full power to the Incoming executive board to enforce all disciplinary measures against individuals or groups in our local, who would give any assistance to or take instructions from any group or element disloyal to our organization tending to obstruct the work of rehabilitation of our union undertaken by the International.

in a few days to the satisfaction of the workers.

Bro. Polakoff also told President Sigman that the suit instituted by the Union against the Toronto Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Association for loss of wages to 25 workers caused by the lockout of the employees of the Winter Garments, Ltd., a member of the association, will probably be tried in January. The show continues to be picketed by the workers.

## Members of Dressmakers' Union, Local 22 Receive Registration Call

(Continued from Page 1)

taxes and assessments and the manner in which the members of the old local

### PROCLAMATION AND MANIFESTO

To All Operators, Finishers, Drapers, Examiners, Cleaners, Members of Local No. 22:—

Sisters and Brothers:

The Dressmakers are now facing a serious situation. The agreement between the Union and the Employers in the Dress industry expires on December 31, 1926.

Since the Communists have assumed office, the affairs of the Dressmakers have been grossly mismanaged. Incompetence and criminal negligence have brought the Dressmakers' Union to the brink of ruin. Most of the large shops have been lost to the Union during the regime of the Communists. Practically every individual strike called has been lost. The so-called "organization campaigns", conducted at tremendous cost, have been colossal failures. The number of Union shops has decreased. The number of non-union shops has increased. Wages, standards and conditions have been lowered. Assessments and taxes have been imposed upon the Dressmakers to an extent never before equalled.

Aid now, these Communist betrayers are conspiring to perpetrate the same crime against the Dressmakers as they committed against the Cloakmakers. They are preparing to plunge the Dressmakers into a General Strike. The tragic fate of the Cloakmakers must not be visited upon the Dressmakers.

For six months, 35,000 cloakmakers and their families faced starvation and were exposed to acute misery and suffering. Same trade-union leadership could have easily averted this strike. Better conditions could have been obtained without the loss of a complete season. If not for the intervention of the International, the strike against the Contractors would still be on and most of the Cloakmakers would be compelled to face the loss of another season. The International is now making a heroic effort to rebuild what the Communists destroyed.

### The Dressmakers Want A Union

We know that the Dressmakers are not Communists. The Cutters' Local No. 10, Pressers' Local No. 35, Italian Local No. 89, have all joined the International in its effort to free the Union from the pernicious influence and domination of the Communist Party. Hundreds of operators, finishers, drapers and examiners, members of Local No. 22, come to us daily, pleading with us to save them from the tragic fate, which inevitably will be theirs, if the Communists are permitted to carry out their plans.

Too many have been the struggles, too great the sacrifices made by the workers in the Dress industry to build a Union and to establish conditions, that they should be jeopardized now through the whims of an outside political clique.

In order that we shall be able immediately to proceed with negotiations with the employers of the Dress industry for the purpose of reaching a reasonable understanding, the General Executive Board appointed a provisional executive committee and assumed management and control of Local No. 22.

We therefore call upon all Dressmakers, members of Local No. 22, who want to have an agreement reached with the employers, who want to maintain a Union for the workers and by the workers; who want to remain a part of our International; who want to retain their affiliation with the

are to be enrolled in the International Dressmakers' local upon the payment of a mere nominal fee. The proclamation follows:

American Federation of Labor, to register immediately.

Starting with Monday, December 27, members of Local No. 22 will be registered at the following places:

Bryant Hall, 725 Sixth Avenue, near 42nd Street.  
International Building, 3 West 16th Street.

Beethoven Hall, 210 E. Fifth Street, near Third Ave.

Office for registration will be open from 9 o'clock in the morning until 9 o'clock in the evening.

### MANIFESTO

Considering the fact that the Dressmakers have been heavily assessed and taxed during the last year and a half, the General Executive Board decided to register members on the following conditions:

Those who will present books at the registration offices dated July, 1926, will be accepted as old members, with all rights and privileges, and dues and assessments paid up to date, upon the payment of 50 cents.

Those who have books previous to July, 1926, will be admitted as old members, with all rights and privileges, and dues and assessments paid up to date, upon the payment of \$5.00. Do not delay registration. Come at once!

### MANAGEMENT

We know that the Dressmakers will be glad to learn that the International has entrusted the management of the Dressmakers' Union to Vice-president Julius Hochman.

Vice-president Hochman, himself a dressmaker, has been for many years connected with the Dressmakers' Union, and is thoroughly acquainted with the Dress industry and its problems. He led the strike in 1923 which lasted only six weeks, and gave the Dressmakers the 40-hour and 5-day week. Last season, Vice-president Hochman conducted a very successful campaign in the dress industry of Boston, which resulted in the building up of one of the best organized dress unions we have in the country today.

Under his administration, the Dressmakers' Union of New York gained strength and influence; and the workers received the full benefits provided in the contract between the Union and the employers. Brother Hochman will be in charge of negotiations and also of the administrative office for the workers of the Dress industry.

Offices to carry on the administrative affairs of the Dressmakers have been opened on the first floor of the International Building, at 3 West 16th Street. Please bring all your complaints to, and call all your shop meetings through the above office.

Yours fraternally,  
GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD,  
Int'l Ladies' Garment Workers' Union  
MORRIS SIGMAN, President

## Toronto Cloakmakers Defeat Communists

(Continued from Page 1)

ing New York, reported to President Sigman that he expects to reach an agreement with the Toronto Embroidery Manufacturers' Association shortly after returning to Toronto next week. The association showed a willingness to sign up last week, but insisted that no wage raises be asked by the Union, to which the Polakoff murmured. It is expected, however, that the dispute will be straightened out

## 'Cloak Strike' Bond Salesmen Exposed

(Continued from Page 1)

trades unions to obtain funds for a fake bond issue. These gentlemen have solicited funds for every Communist activity in this country from the time of the Friends of Soviet Russia down to the present. These men are as little cloakmakers as the National Executive Committee of the Communist Party. Knowing that the workers in New York are thoroughly acquainted with their subterfuges, they are to

convince Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Detroit, Cleveland, Buffalo, Chicago and New Haven where, perhaps, the workers are not aware that the funds will be used to bolster up falling Communist political fortunes rather than to give assistance to our cloakmakers ruined by the Communists. I again take occasion to warn the American labor movement not to succumb to this latest Communist hoax to defraud not only the labor movement outside but the cloakmakers as well."

**Buy**

**WHITE LILY TEA**

**COLUMBIA TEA**

**ZWETOCHNI CHAI**

**Exclusively**

## "Progressives" Condemned at Their Own Meeting by Local 89

Disguised Communists Eat Their Own Challenge.

A so-called "progressive group of Local No. 89" summoned last week the members of the Italian Dress and Waist Makers' Union to come to a meeting on Friday, December 24, at 42 Third Avenue, to pass censure on the action of the executive board of the local and especially on the action of the general secretary who, according to the circular, "would not dare appear before the members of the local."

As early as 6 P. M. the small meeting room was crowded with active members of Local No. 89, who answered the call. The entrance of Luigi Antonini was greeted with a burst of applause. As none of the initiators of the meeting appeared to be anxious to open it, Brother Isidori called the meeting to order and G. Providenti and S. Iovino were unanimously elected as chairman and secretary, respectively.

As the callers of the meeting still declined to state openly its purpose, Brother Antonini arose and stated:

"I would not have come to this meeting had I not been invited and challenged by the circular. I never attended any of the meetings of the so-called 'progressives' but I came here to prove to you that I am not afraid to talk to any member of our union and to prove to you, furthermore, that it is not President Sigman who has betrayed our workers as the Communists have charged but that the traitors were the Communists who

worked for anything but the interests of the workers.

"I have no intention of boasting to you about my loyalty or devotion to the workers. But I have always tried to do my best to protect the members of Local No. 89, and I am confident that they will not deny me the right to speak in their name or to take part in the discussion of their affairs. If you wish to discuss matters calmly, as is my wish, I am ready to show you where the real traitors of the working masses are and where its loyal and sincere protectors are to be found."

The few Communists, disguised under the name of progressives, feeling lost at their own meeting, spoke through Frank Coco, not a member of Local No. 89, who called upon his adherents to leave the little meeting room. Thereupon, the meeting was temporarily suspended, but was continued later at 231 East 14th Street, at the Italian Labor Center. Only 7 members of Local 89 with a few outsiders were left at the meeting room at 42 Third Avenue.

When the meeting was resumed at the Italian Labor Center, a resolution was adopted commending the stand of Local No. 89 "In the present battle led by the International Union to draw the union out of the chaos into which it has unfortunately fallen and to give it an administration of unionists, and to protect the integrity and the independence of the Italian dressmakers' local from the disrupting hands of outside political cliques."

## 'Peace' Overtures Spurned by International

(Continued from Page 1)

cloakmakers and the discredited and deposed Communist leadership and to champion a fake "impartial election" in our Union. Though the American Civil Liberties' Union refused to become a party to such a farce, when cloakmakers showed their sentiment by registering in the thousands with the International Union, this haphazard committee proposes to supervise this "impartial" election. A casual glance, however, at the composition of the committee chosen for this burlesque instantly reveals its "non-partisanship." L. Kleinman, recently owner of a non-union shop in our industry, is the secretary of the committee. He has been long connected with Communist affairs.

"There is nothing to negotiate with the deposed Communist leadership. They have no power; they have no authority. They represent nobody but themselves, the Communist Party and William Z. Foster's Trade Union Educational League. For cloakmakers and dress makers, the test is simple. When the International took over the situa-

tion, it said to the workers: 'Are you for the International, for its American trade union principles, or for the dark forces enslaved by Moscow and Chicago, who cannot do your bidding, but must do the bidding of an outside, discredited political party? If you are for the International, then register with it.' In addition to the 16,000 members of Locals 10, 43, 23, 89 and 82 who have always been supporters of the International and did not need to be registered, 15,000 cloakmakers from erstwhile Communist-controlled local unions have registered with the Union within a week. When the Spring season begins, the total will be even more gratifying. This is the cloakmakers' answer to the Communist camouflage."

Vice-pres. Hochman announced on Wednesday, Dec. 29, independent settlement with 25 dress manufacturers, re-serving agreements expiring January 1 for the next two years. This is the first move, since Communist leadership was deposed in Local 22, Dressmakers, by the International Union to avert prospects of a strike threatened by the Communist leadership.

## Italian Dressmakers Vote Full Support To International

Will Protect Local 89 Against All Enemies

At a crowded meeting of active and loyal members of Local 89, held at the "Women's Trade Union League" on Friday, December 10, the present situation in the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union was discussed, and all present, by a unanimous vote, pledged themselves to be ready at all times to answer all calls made by the administration of Local 89 to give

their full cooperation to the Union, and to help make it again an organization of the unionists, by the unionists and for the unionists.

A report made at the meeting by the General Secretary of Local 89, Luigi Antonini, was greeted with much applause. It was followed by Fortunato Schifano, Antonio Faiva and other from the rank and file.

## CLOAKMAKERS REGISTER!

ALL CLOAKMAKERS OF LOCAL 2, 3, 9, 23, 35, 48, AND 52 MUST REGISTER AND RECEIVE OFFICIAL INTERNATIONAL UNION BOOKS AND WORKING CARDS

REGISTRATION BEGINS WED., DEC. 22 and thereafter—hours 9 A. M. to 9 P. M.

REGISTRATION OFFICES:

BEETHOVEN HALL — 210 EAST 5th STREET  
(All shops up to and including 30th St.)

BRYANT HALL — 725—6th AVENUE (at 42nd St.)  
(All shops above 30th Street and all Avenues)

Official International Union Books will be issued as follows:

Members holding Pink Books will receive new Books upon payment of Fifty (50c) Cents (35c for a stamp and 15c for the Book.)

Those holding any other colored Books will receive New Books upon payment of Five (\$5.00) Dollars (which covers all arrears.)

BRING YOUR PRESENT DUES BOOK AND WORKING CARD OR STRIKING CARD

REGISTER BY SHOPS

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION  
PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE OF CLOAKMAKERS

MORRIS SIGMAN, President

## Cloakmaker Beaten by Furrier 'Pickets'

(Continued from Page 1)

given to Cohen, and held the assailants over for the Grand Jury fixing heavy bail.

President Sigman, in commenting on the assault, declared:

"This unholy alliance between the Communists of various needle unions and gangsterism must stop. It reveals a desperate Communist attempt to stave off the inevitable—their complete elimination from our progressive

unions demanded by a rank and file outraged by their campaign of terrorism. This recourse to violence of a most brutal nature—Cohen was so beaten up that, after three weeks, he was still almost too weak to appear in court against his assailants—is their last card. The International solemnly serves warning that intimidation and violence against our members who are seeking to rid their union of this destructive element simply won't go."

## 'Impartial Election' Denounced As Fraud

(Continued from Page 1)

not intend to participate in an internal union affair unless the International also invites this organization's participation.

As far as the International Union is concerned, President Sigman declared the "election" will be a fraud, with votes of Communist recruits from other unions and members of the Communist Party. Honest cloakmakers, he said, are already casting their vote by voluntarily registering with the International and getting their working

cards. Over 10,000 have registered in three days at Beethoven and Bryant Halls and offices of various unions. The deposed Communist leaders, Louis Hyman, Charles Zimmerman, Joseph Boruchowitz and Julius Portnoy, have no power to call any election, he added.

READ THE EDUCATIONAL PAGE OF JUSTICE which appears weekly. This will keep you in touch with the activities of our Educational Department which are free to you and your family.

## JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

Published every Friday by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union  
Office: 3 West 16th Street, New York, N. Y. Tel. Chelsea 2148

MORRIS SIGMAN, President A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer  
MAX D. DANISH, Editor

Subscription price, paid in advance, \$1.00 per year.

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Friday, December 31, 1936

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## EDITORIALS

### A NEW ELECTION FAKE

The Communist press, which acts as a spearhead for the deposed group of former Joint Board officials, has pulled another trick from its bag by announcing a few days ago that the "cloakmakers are going to have an election of officers."

The fast diminishing band of Communists which is still having its quarters in the Joint Board building appears to have decided to give the cloakmakers, at this late hour, a teaspoonful of "democracy." The gang which only yesterday was parading in a mantle of Communist dictatorship has, of a sudden, become converted to "democratic control," and to the rule of the people by the ballot box.

What has happened? Has the leopard really changed his spots?

Nothing of the sort. The Communists who have debauched and nearly ruined the cloakmakers' organization and every other local on which they had succeeded in laying their grasping hands, believe today as little in democracy, in freedom of opinion and in tolerance as they believed a year ago. But "when the devil is sick, the devil an angel would be." And the Communist devil is certainly a very, very sick devil these days. Having lost the cloak strike, after spending over three million dollars and keeping the workers out of the shops for nearly six months, the brilliant Communist generals find themselves today practically without an "army," deserted by the mass of the cloakmakers who are rallying by the thousands to the banner of their International Union.

What actually has happened was that this Communist band last week realized that not only has the leadership of the International deposed them from office, that not only are they in the eyes of the whole Labor movement but a group of outlaws and usurpers, but that the rank and file of the cloakmakers has deposed them from leadership. Horrified beyond measure, they have watched the endless lines of cloakmakers who crowded the registration halls last week to enroll in the reorganized locals, the ten thousand men and women who in the first two days of registration have recorded themselves as loyal members of the International. Then they realized that their game was up. In a few weeks the Communist house of cards would crumble under the impact of the bitter wrath and resentment of the cloakmakers' masses!

It is in this despairing, frantic frame of mind that the idea of an "election" was born in the Communist camp. The Communist fakers, now blocked and obstructed on all sides by every honest and loyal element, still hope that they might succeed in pulling another skein of wool over the eyes of the cloakmakers by selling them, this "election" gold brick, after they had nearly smashed their union. Now that they are discredited and despised by every sincere friend of the labor movement—now that they have nothing to lose—these usurpers have turned "democrats" overnight and are clamoring for an election of officers.

A vain, forlorn hope! The cloakmakers of New York are through with this band of Communist misleaders. Their stunts and tricks will avail them nothing in the eyes of the masses of our workers and their belated conversion to "democracy" will be met only with scorn and derision. Not only the cloakmakers, not only the members of the working class, but even the liberal-minded and progressive section of opinion in our community has by this time come to realize the true nature and complexion of these new deliverers of the toilers, the Communist invaders of the trade union movement. Our members may find evidence for this in the quick and definite refusal of the American Civil Liberties Union to have anything to do with this "election" fake about to be perpetrated by the Communists under the mask of democracy and freedom of opinion.

Just at this time, the members of our cloakmakers' organization in New York are having an election, and this expression of their choice finds its form in the registration in the reorganized International locals. At present, this registration is the all-important test of their loyalty to their Union and of their determination to remain with it and with the whole labor movement. This registration is the only election in which the cloakmakers of New York will show their stand in the campaign of their International Union to weed out the Communist disrupters and the demagogues who have gambled away their strike, humiliated their organization and robbed them of the right to run the affairs of their own union.

The "election" fake of the deposed and discredited Communist band comes too late. It will fall just as every other of their recent tricks to beguile the mind of the cloakmakers has failed, and just as miserably.

### THE REORGANIZATION OF LOCAL 22

The reorganization of Local 22, the union of the New York dressmakers, which at this moment is being carried out by the International Union, is not only an important part of the general movement to rid our Union in particular and the Labor movement in general of pernicious Communist Party rule-or-ruin influence. It is a vital step taken at a critical hour to save the dressmakers' union from the consequences of a policy which is likely to prove even more disastrous than what the Communist machinations have brought upon the workers in the cloak and suit industry.

The dressmakers' local, which for the past two years has been mortgaged back, stock and barrel to the Communist Party, has paid heavily for its surrender. Three years ago, the International Union, with President Sigman at the head, has succeeded in wresting from the dress manufacturers the 40-hour five-day work week and an agreement which added materially to the prestige and fighting strength of the organization. There was every reason to hope, when that strike came to an end, that in the intervening three years the strengthened dressmakers' union would be able to achieve the great constructive task that lay before it—the unionization of the large and ever growing number of non-union shops in the industry.

These anticipations, nevertheless, came to naught. Shortly after the strike of 1924, Local 22 fell completely under the influence of the Communist "borers," and with it came a total paralysis of its activities. In the past two years, under Communist leadership, the spasmodic "organizing campaigns," from time to time launched by the local have resulted in one costly fiasco after another. Shop strikes against some of the biggest firms occupying strategic positions in the industry were set owing to incompetence and gross blundering. Not only has the local lost heavily in membership, but its loss of prestige and influence in the dress industry has had a bad effect upon the other locals in the same industry dragging them down along with it.

In this manner, while retaining the exterior of a labor union, Local 22 became, in fact, a mere outpost for the Communist Party, honeycombed to the core with Communist policy, dominated by Fosterism at every move and turn, and persistently defying in letter and spirit the leadership of the International Union, to which it ostensibly belonged.

Small wonder therefore that, when the Communist "league" and Party decided early last Summer that its business demanded a general strike in the cloak industry of New York at all cost in order to strengthen its hold on the Joint Board, officials of the dressmakers' local jumped into fray, at the call of the Communist Party, to help. Together with Communist-controlled cloakmakers' officials, they became the chief strategists of the strike, and leaving their own local adrift to take care of itself the best way it could, gave up their whole time to the leading of the cloakmakers' army on the road to the social revolution!

What these Communist tacticians have done to the cloakmakers and to the strike which they have foisted upon them, our members need not be told at this hour. Our members have paid dearly enough for the Communist leadership of the Joint Board during the past year and a half to remember it for many years to come. That price will perhaps never become known in full until the last vestige of Communist domination is removed in all our organizations and the Communist machine of terror and intimidation smashed and its debris cast into oblivion.

And now, it appears that the Communists are getting ready to duplicate the job which they have so splendidly accomplished in the cloakmakers' union, in the dressmakers' organization. It is almost certain that the Communists, acting upon instructions of their Party, will try to "pull" another general strike in the dress industry where the agreement with the employers expires in a short while. There is a chance for throwing another industry into turmoil, since the offices in the organization in that industry are under their control, and Communist policy demands that a strike be called. What if it results in suffering beyond measure to the workers, what if it dislocates a season and brings about at best but doubtful gains, it is all small stuff in comparison with the opportunity to fasten the hold of their party upon the local in time of a struggle and incidentally to terrorize and intimidate their opponents with an iron hand—done so easily and so handily in time of a strike.

It is to thwart the Communist schemes to entangle the dressmakers into a general fight whether the dressmakers want it or not, or whether a strike could easily be averted with chances of a settlement and the renewal of the agreement on sound and sane terms, that the International, acting under the authority given it by the Constitution of the Union, has stepped into the breach. In view of the imminent danger of precipitate action by the Communists no time could be spared. The lesson learned from their brutal and unpardonable mishandling of the cloakmakers' strike, called for immediate action, and immediate action came.

The International, as well as the whole labor movement, are fully aware of the fact that the mass of the New York dressmakers are not Communists, just as the rank and file of the cloakmakers' organization are not Communists. They are wage earners united in a trade union primarily for the protection of their interests in the shops and for the continued improvement of their working and living conditions. The small Communist clique which has dominated that local in the past two years does not represent the voice of the thousands of dressmakers who are now revolting at the prospect of seeing their trade involved in a revolutionary strike to suit the insane whims of the "educational league" of the Communist Party.

It is to these thousands of dressmakers, members of Local

# A United Front

By JOE ALONE.

After years of agitation for a "united front" by the Communists it has been realized—that it is not the united front they wanted. The organization of the Committee for the Preservation of Trade Unionism is a united front of the New York unions for the complete elimination of Foster's Trade Union Educational League and the Workers' (Communist) Party from their interference in the unions.

In order that this struggle may be made effective the members of this alliance against Communist plotting should have important facts that they can use in this fight. They must fully understand what sort of thing they are fighting. Hence the following facts:

For years William Z. Foster was an Anarchist-Syndicalist of the force type. In 1911 or 1912 he collaborated with Earl G. Ford in the authorship of a booklet entitled "Syndicalism." The following extracts from the booklet throw some light on his views.

"Syndicalism has placed the Anarchist movement upon a practical, effective basis." (p. 31). The Syndicalists are directing forces in all groups and "maintain their leadership through their superior intellect, energy, courage, cunning," etc. (pp. 43-44). With the Syndicalist "the end justifies the means." (p. 9). He is as "unscrupulous in his choice of weapons to fight his everyday battles as for his final struggle with capitalism." (p. 18). He forgot to add that Mr. Foster did not have the courage to defend this creed when he was being questioned by a committee of the U. S. Senate in 1919. On that occasion he showed himself to be decidedly "yellow."

It is not surprising that Foster, the anarchist-syndicalist of 1912, accepted the Communism of later years. What he says in the quotations above may be found in Communist publications over and over again. In Czarist Russia strikes were illegal. Unions were conspiratorial organizations and they could be nothing else. Every strike had the possibility of being transformed into an armed insurrection against the government. The Czarist officials knew this. So did the union members. The unions knew nothing of the comparative freedom of action and open organization of Western Europe and America.

In other words, the old Russian trade unions were force organizations as well as unions to better conditions. After the fall of Czarism the Russian leaders have attempted to graft their tactics of force, plotting and secret maneuvering upon the movement in all other countries. Their organizations were justified under Czarism but they are suicidal and reactionary in the modern nations.

The first attempt to take over the whole labor movement of the world by the Russian Communists was in 1920. In that year they issued their 21 Points of the Third International. Point 9 was aimed at the trade unions of the world. It reads: "Every party wishing to belong to the Third International must systematically and persistently develop a Communist agitation within the trade unions, the work-

ers' and shop councils, the cooperatives of consumption and other mass organizations of the workers." Within these organizations it is necessary to organize Communist nuclei which, through continuous and persistent work, are to win the trade unions, etc., for the cause of Communism. These nuclei are obligated in their daily work everywhere to expose the treason of social patriots and the infidelity of the center. The Communist nuclei must be completely under the control of the party as a whole."

Members of the unions of New York that have been nearly wrecked by Communist International agrees with their experience in the unions. Below we shall show that this order declaring that the nuclei in the unions "must be completely under the control of the party as a whole" was worked out in detail and has been applied here in New York. The nuclei leaders in the unions owe first allegiance to the Communist Party, not to the unions. Hence, the conflict in the unions and the raising to power of men who can plot but who know little or nothing about intelligent direction of strikes.

The Communist International issued a press bulletin from Vienna bearing the title, "International Press Correspondence." From two to six of these bulletins are published each week and sent all over the world. Each bulletin carries from eight to 100 pages of printed matter reporting the work of Communist parties, fractions, "nuclei," the Communist International, attacks on Socialist and Labor parties, trade unions, trade union officials, and news of what is transpiring in Russia under the Communist dictatorship. This publication bears the official stamp of the Communist bureaucracy in Russia and the Communist bureaucracies of all countries.

The issue of May 5, 1926, carries 24 pages which are devoted entirely to detailed instructions on how the street "nuclei," the shop "nuclei," the union "nuclei," and the variety of other "nuclei" are to organize and carry on their work. We turn to the last section beginning on page 591 which bears the caption, "Model Directions for the Formation and Structure of the Communist Fractions in the Trade Union." We are immediately interested. We proceed to read and we are enlightened. We understand what has happened in New York.

The first sentence reads: "The Communist members of a trade union organization and its organs (committees, conferences, congresses, etc.) must unite into a fraction and carry on fractional work." Must unite! That must for a Communist means orders from the highest authority in the bureaucracy.

We turn to page 592 and the order for the "nuclei" in the unions are still more precise. There we read: "The party executive determines the political and tactical line of the Communist fractions, directs and instructs them, and controls their activity." The rank and file of the members do not formulate decisions for the unions so far as Communists are concerned. The Communist Party "directs," "instructs" and "controls" them.

Perhaps you think the Communist leaders of the Joint Board have not taken orders from the Communist Party. If you think so, read the next paragraph: "Important tasks of the fractions shall be discussed in the Trade Union Department in the presence of representatives of the fractions. In case of various differences of opinion between the fraction and the Trade Union Department, the Party Executive shall decide the matter in the presence of fraction representatives. The decisions of the Party Executive must be carried out unconditionally by the fraction. Nonfulfillment constitutes a breach of discipline."

The Trade Union Department in this country is Foster's League. The Party Executive is the Executive Committee of the Communist Party. Communist leaders of the Joint Board have been meeting behind the backs of the union members and the executive of the Communist Party has ratified, modified or vetoed or planned the recent disastrous strike.

But this is not all. Between secret sessions of the "nuclei" leaders and the Communist Party executive the latter must have regular reports of

the leaders on the strike. Here is the instruction quoted from the same page: "The fraction executives are obliged to give regular reports to the proper party executive or to the proper department and higher fraction executive."

We have by no means reached the limit of these instructions. The Communist Party determines who shall run for office in the union and even makes the nominations! This is set forth in the following instruction: "Candidates for all congresses, conferences and committees shall be nominated by the fraction executive and approved by the proper party executive. If necessary, the party executive itself can nominate candidates."

All these instructions by the highest section of the Communist bureaucracy have been carried out in the strike of the cloakmakers. They explain many things that were mysterious. They convict the leaders of the strike. The quotations are not taken from an anti-Communist organ. They are literal reprints of what appears in a genuine 100 per cent Communist publication.

No union can survive and tolerate this back-stairs plotting by anybody. It has almost wrecked some unions in New York. It must go. It is going. Soon it will be gone, leaving only a memory of the evil it has done and with the assurance that it will never return.

## The Goose Step In Education

By NORMAN THOMAS

The most amazing thing about the decision of New York State's Commissioner of Education upholding the right of the city Board of Education to close the schoolhouse doors to the American Civil Liberties Union was not the law involved. Commissioner Graves made it apparent that he was not attacking the character of members of the American Civil Liberties Union. Perhaps he is right that under the terms of the law he has no power to go behind the discretion of the Board of Education. That is for the courts to determine. He is clearly and seriously wrong in his theory of the relation of controversy to education. He went out of his way to explain that in his opinion the less the school buildings were used in the evening for discussions of a controversial nature, the better. That is to say, in a democracy which cannot possibly be intelligent without the discussion of controversial issues school buildings built at public expense must be kept night after night in darkness rather than permit in them the orderly discussion of questions of the utmost concern to the people. It is quite beside the point for the Commissioner to say that other halls are available. As a matter of fact desirable halls are not easily available at a moderate price. The use of public schools tends to raise discussion to the level of education. The refusal to permit this use to the schools is another proof that our public educators have a rubber stamp conception of education. They want to teach people to read but not to think. For how can we have social education without discussion and how can we have discussion without controversy? The purpose of our magnificent school buildings under the dominant conception is to turn out educated parrots who will shout the right patriotic slogans at the right time. This, it would appear, is Americanization.

Something to Cheer About

Not for long, weary months has there been any news so well calculated to raise hope in the American labor movement as the news that the Botany Mills, after an eleven months' struggle, have recognized the United Text

ile Workers in Passaic. Of course the workers have not won all they asked or all they had a right to ask. First, however, they forced the restoration of the 10 per cent cut in the Botany Mills. Then from the man who had protested that he would not recognize the union they forced recognition of the union. It is a magnificent victory after an heroic struggle. It shows what can be done without violence or gangsterism by an appeal both to the interest and the idealism of the rank and file of the workers. In this result there is honor for all. For those who started the strike, for those who carried it on, for those who negotiated the settlement, for those who have contributed to relief, but most of all to the workers themselves whose steadfast loyalty and high spirit shine like beacon lights in this time of apathy, cynicism and factional strife in many labor unions. Remember, however, the strike is not yet over. Important mills have not yet settled. Relief must be continued.

Governor Smith insists that the water power issue is a business issue and not political. On the contrary, it is a political issue in the true sense of the word. There is no more important and no more legitimate political issue than the general question: Must the people turn over natural resources and public utilities to private profit makers? Is the government to remain so incapable or unwilling that it cannot set up agencies to manage basic necessities for the use of the citizens rather than the profit of investors? It was a matter of time and effort to prove that the common stockholders of the Frontier Corporation would have got a 15 per cent actual return on the money they themselves invested—as apart from what they raised from the sale of bonds or preferred stock—in the development of water power that belongs to the State and that the State's own agency, employing the same expert engineers, could develop for no such charge. In these questions of the function of government lies an economic issue which is at the basis of any realistic division between parties.

22, that the International has directed its call to register at once with the reorganized local. These dressmakers, who represent the overwhelming majority of the workers in the shops, do want an agreement reached with the employers, without any strife if possible. These dressmakers want to maintain a union for the workers and by the workers. These workers want to remain a part of our International Union, which eighteen years ago has laid the foundation of a union in the dress trade after a heroic struggle. These dressmakers want to retain their affiliation with the American Federation of Labor, and with the general labor movement.



# EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES

## Pioneer Youth Winter Camp

Pioneer Youth of America has again this year announced the Winter Camp, which will be held at Queensboro Cabin in Bear Mountain Park on December 27th to January 2nd. There are accommodations for twenty-three campers besides the counselors. The organization is repeating the excitement because of its remarkable success last year at the same place.

"The Camp is a snug little cabin with its open fireplace and plenty of heavy blankets for the bunk. The cabin is situated in the valley between some of the most picturesque hills of the region and is fronted by a lake. Places for skating, tobogganing and skiing are to be found at the front door while hiking and snow-shoeing trails make up a large part of the local map. The evenings are occupied with improvised entertainments, which run from poetry reading and doggerel on camp activities and spontaneous drama to every kind of discussion.

Winter Camp is only one of the many activities offered by Pioneer

Youth to the children of workers. In the three years of its existence, it has reached through its clubs and camps more than 800 children. It conducts 20 children's clubs in New York City and Philadelphia and conducts also a summer camp at Pawling, N. Y., and another at Media, Pa.

In addition to the all-round clubs, there are a number of special interest groups—an athletic club, an orchestra, a dramatic group, a discussion group. A children's central committee, consisting of representatives from various clubs, governs all affairs which are of interest purely to the children and are of inter-club nature.

It is now backed by more than 200 trade unions. National officers are: T. J. Curtis, Pres. of the Tunnel and Subway Contractors, president; A. J. Muste, Dean of Brookwood, and Maud Swartz of the Women's Trade Union League, vice-presidents; A. Baroff, of the International Ladies' Garment Workers, Treasurer; Joshua Lieberman, Secretary. The headquarters are at 5 West 16th Street.

## UNITY REUNION DANCE

Saturday, Feb. 12th, Lincoln's Birthday, Grand Ballroom of Manhattan Opera House.—Paul Whiteman's Piccadilly Players.

Groups of our members are planning to spend the evening of Lincoln's Birthday, on Saturday, February 12th, at our Unity Reunion Dance which will take place in the grand ballroom of the Manhattan Opera House, 24th street, near 5th Avenue.

Many are wondering whether the hall is large enough for all those who will want to come and live through an evening in the spirit of Unity, and dance to the music of the famous Paul Whiteman Piccadilly Players.

We realize that the hall is not large enough, but we selected it for its beauty, because we want the surroundings to remind you of the happy days at our Unity Houses.

Naturally those who obtain their tickets early will be among the few fortunate ones who will attend our Unity Reunion Dance, on Saturday, February 12th.

Tickets are \$1.00, and may be obtained at the office of our Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street, Chelsea 2148.

## CURRENT BOOKS AT REDUCED PRICES

Our Educational Department is continuing its arrangements with leading publishers, which enables it to furnish books to our members at wholesale prices. Lately, very interesting books have appeared on social and economic problems, and also fiction.

Members can order these thru our Educational Department, 3 West 16th Street.

### Step By Step

Step by step the longest march  
Can be won; can be won.  
Single stones will form an arch  
One by one, one by one.

"And by union, what we will  
Can be all accomplished still.  
Drops of water turn a mill,  
Single none, singly none."

## CIVIC REPERTORY THEATRE

14th Street Near 6th Avenue

An attempt is being made by an earnest group of artists headed by Eva Le Gallienne to develop an Art Theatre in this country where the best plays are presented to the public at popular prices.

The policy of the Broadway theatres does not permit anyone to present plays at prices below the Broadway scale. Therefore, Broadway was out of the question for this group as the crux of their plan was to create a "Volks-theatre" where tickets would sell from 25 cents to \$1.50. The old 14th Street Theatre seemed an ideal home; the seating capacity is 1200, not too large nor too small and the stage is fine.

The object of Civic Repertory Group is to keep alive fine plays of artistic value. They are presenting new such plays as "The Three Sisters", "La Locandiera", "The Master Builder", "Twelfth Night", "John Gabriel Borkman".

We highly recommend this theatre to our members. It gives them an opportunity to see the finest plays, artistically performed at the lowest prices.

## WHAT TO READ

Mr. Holloway, in his course on American Literature, has recommended to his groups to read Holman's "Looking Backward" and Up-ton Sinclair's "Jungle". These two books can be obtained from the office of the Educational Department at greatly reduced prices.

Hundreds of thousands of copies of "Looking Backward" have been sold. Written in 1888, it was the first American Utopia that combined in fiction form the possibilities of science with the popular conception of State Socialism. Great ingenuity and inventiveness characterize the book, which embodies a love story quite apart from its sociological message.

Sinclair's famous novel "The Jungle" has often been compared with "Uncle Tom's Cabin" in the influence that its first publication wielded over political and industrial affairs in America. Although its message is unmistakable, it tells a story of compelling interest and dramatic intensity.

## Weekly Educational Calendar

Washington Irving High School,  
16th Street and Irving Place, Room 530

Saturday, January 8

1:30 p. m. B. J. R. Stolper—Social Tendencies in Literature.  
"Yiddish Literature a Lively Invald."

Sunday, January 9

11:00 a. m. A. J. Muste—Current Events in the Labor and Social World.

EXTENSION DIVISION

McKinley Square Garden, 1258 Boston Road, Bronx

Friday, January 7

8:00 a. m. Dr. C. Lieberman—Literature—An Expression of Life.

EAST SIDE UNITY CENTER

P. S. 25, Room 410, 330 East 5th St.

Tuesday, January 4

Subject to be announced.

HARLEM UNITY CENTER

P. S. 72, Room 406, Lexington Ave. at 105th St.

Wednesday, January 5

5:30 p. m. Alexander Fichandler—How to Learn to "Think Straight".

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Friday, January 7

Local 50 Headquarters, 52 North 10th St.

7:30 p. m. Intermediate English.

8:30 p. m. Robert Morley—Labor Problems.

810 Locust Street

Wednesday, January 5

8 p. m. Robert Kerlin—English Literature.

## WORKERS' UNIVERSITY WILL REOPEN JANUARY 8

B. J. R. Stolper will start his course in "The Social Tendencies in Literature" on Saturday, January 8, 1:30 p. m. at Workers' University, Washington Irving High School, Room 530, 16th Street and Irving Place.

A. J. Muste will continue his discussion on "Current Events in the Labor and Social World" on Sunday, January 9, at 11 a. m., in the same place. His topic will be "Economic Problems of the Ladies' Garment Industry. Admission to these courses is free to I. L. G. W. U. members.

## "STRAIGHT THINKING"

Course by Alexander Fichandler in P. S. 72, Wednesday, January 5. Alexander Fichandler will continue his discussions on "Straight Thinking" at the Harlem Unity Center, P. S. 72, 105th Street and Lexington Avenue, Room 406, on Wednesday, January 5, at 8:30 p. m.

The sessions so far have proved most interesting and of educational value. Our members realize the necessity for thinking straight and also the possibility of learning to do so. They appreciate the urgency, especially in these troubled times, of not being carried away by emotionalism.

Those of our members who have not attended this course before may join on Wednesday, January 5, in Room 406 of P. S. 72 at 8:30 p. m. Admission is free to I. L. G. W. U. members.

## UNITY CENTERS WILL RE-OPEN JANUARY 3rd

English classes in the Unity Center will reopen on Monday, January 3rd. Instruction in elementary, intermediate and advanced English is given three times weekly, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. Take advantage of this opportunity to learn the language of our country.

## EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN PHILADELPHIA

Several courses have been arranged for our members in Philadelphia. On Friday nights at 7:30 p. m. Bertha Grunberg conducts classes in intermediate and advanced English at the headquarters of Local 50, 52 North 10th Street. At 8:30 p. m. in the same place Robert Morley gives a course in Labor Problems.

Wednesday nights at 8 p. m. Robert Kerlin lectures on English Literature at the Labor Institute, 810 Locust Street.

For information apply to Ada Rosenfeld, 52 North 10th Street or Beckie Stein, 510 Locust Street.

## LITERATURE AND LIFE

On Friday, January 7, at 8 p. m., Dr. H. Lieberman will start a series of lectures on Literature and Life. The lecturer will discuss: (a) What is Literature, (b) How to distinguish between good and bad literature. Dr. Lieberman will also give a social interpretation of literature, and will stress its identity with our social life.

As an illustration of books dealing with social questions will be taken up from time to time, and selections will be made from Yiddish, American and English literature.

Each lecture will be a unit in itself. The audience is expected to participate in these discussions as the object of the course is to develop the literary taste of those who attend it, and also their ability to form opinions about literature.

Admission is free to I. L. G. W. U. members.

REGISTER AT ONCE for the courses and lectures offered by the Educational Department of our International, and get in touch with us at 3 West 16th Street.



## Communists Fail to Incite Needle Workers Against I. L. G. W. U. in Boston, Baltimore and Chicago

Communists Fail to Incite Needle Workers Against I. L. G. W. U. in Boston, Baltimore and Chicago

Four meetings maneuvered by Communist elements against the International Union in the course of last month in Boston, Baltimore and Chicago failed miserably. Clockmakers, dressmakers and furriers called to meetings by Communist groups in these cities or by the "Trade Union Educational League" came, but instead of listening to the Communist "educators" took hold of these meetings themselves and turned them into enthusiastic endorsements of the I. L. G. W. U. policy to fight the Communist meddling in trade union affairs to a standstill.

Two such meetings took place in Chicago, one last week, when the efforts of Ben Gold, the Communist manager of the furriers' joint board in New York to hold an "amalgamation" meeting of clockmakers and dressmakers resulted in the meeting going over completely to the trade unionists. The election of John Fitzpatrick as chairman of the gathering by an overwhelming vote made the few Communists present seek at once an exit from the hall and abandon their purpose to condemn the International Union. The meeting adopted instead a moving resolution endorsing the fight on the Communist union smashers.

A second meeting in Chicago, with the same Ben Gold as chief emissary, took place on Tuesday, December 14, called this time by the Communist chairman of the local furriers' organization without the authority of its executive board. When the members of the local came to the meeting they immediately challenged the right of the chairman to summon meetings for the obvious purpose of bolstering up Communist political propaganda. They were immediately attacked by several Communist "guards" who were brought to the meeting and J. Milstein, former manager of the local, J. Belinstein, former treasurer, Morris Rosenberg, and M. Lieberman were badly beaten up.

This brutal attack, however, so enraged the furriers that they would not allow Gold to speak and the meeting broke up in disorder.

Gold had a similar experience in Baltimore, where the clockmakers compelled the Communist group to give up the attempt to attack the International Union at a meeting last week. In Boston, where the "Educational League" tried to stage an anti-

union meeting in the Seaside Auditorium, protected by a squad of policemen, the meeting resulted in the overwhelming majority of the audience, leaving the hall after the police and the Communist stages of the "protest" had refused them to participate in the election of a chairman. About 500 workers adjourned, under the leadership of Vice-President Julius Hochman, the representative of the International in Boston, to the Franklin Auditorium, across the street, and adopted resolutions endorsing the fight which the International Union is waging against, the Communist disrupters in its own midst, and against the pernicious activity of these interlopers in the whole labor movement. President Van Yuzvick of the Massachusetts State Federation of Labor presided at the meeting. Julius Hochman was the chief speaker.

### RESOLUTION

At a special meeting of Local No. 53, of the I. L. G. W. U. on December 11, 1926, it was resolved that:

WHEREAS, the General Executive Board is the supreme body of our Union between conventions, and

WHEREAS, according to our constitution the General Executive Board has the power to withdraw the autonomy of any local or Joint Board when the principles of our Union are jeopardized and the existence of the locals threatened, and

WHEREAS, the present situation in the New York Clock Makers' Union is such that dogmas foreign to the American Trade Union movement are being forced upon the membership while shop and strike problems are neglected, therefore be it

## Labor The World Over

Spanish Trade Unions and the Projected Parliament

ON November 1st the National Council of the "Free" Spanish trade union centre held a special meeting to discuss what should be the attitude of the centre to the projected parliament. It first placed on record the result of a referendum recently taken on the subject; after which the General Council of the Centre instructed the Executive Committee to convene a special trade union congress as soon as the decree should be issued for the meeting of a national parliament. The Congress will then finally decide the position to be taken up by the trade unions.

A similar decision has been taken by the Executive of the Socialist Party; it too has decided to hold a congress of the Party to follow the trade union congress.

It should be added that the convening of a National Parliament is not

likely to take place before the New Year.

### Strength of Trade Unionism in Mexico

THE Mexican National Trade Union

A centre, generally known as the "CROM", now numbers, according to statistics given by Ricardo Trevino, its secretary, some 2,000,000 industrial and farm workers. There are over 2,500 industrial unions and about 2,700 rural organizations. Local groups of workers and farmers from every part of Mexico are making urgent appeals for more public education; hence the 1927 budget for the Ministry of Public Education provides for the increase of rural schools to 5,000.

Not only will the number of schools and teachers be increased: education will also be reorganized so as to place secondary instruction on a basis of four-year courses, which will be carried on together with the practical industrial and agricultural education now being imparted.

### A Good Idea From France

THE Departmental Union of Hérault

(affiliated with the C. G. T.) decided at its last congress to organize a Labor Art Exhibition which will form part of an International Trade and Industry Exhibition to be held for the city of Montpellier; it will be housed in the "Labor" section of this Exhibition, which has been placed at the disposal of the Hérault Departmental Union.

The exhibits will show the enemies of the eight-hour day that the workers employ their free time in useful and educational occupations. Against the eight-hour day it is, of course, often argued that the workers waste their free time when they have it; and the projected exhibition is meant to refute such arguments, by showing what the workers can do in the most varied forms of art, applied art, technical inventions, etc. To cover the costs (exhibitors are not to be put to any expense whatever) a catalogue is to be issued, with a preface containing contributions from Albert Thomas, director of the International Labor Office, Jouhaux, General Secretary of the French General Confederation of the Free and Outgoing, Secretary of the International Federation of Trade Unions.

### Working Hours in the U. S. A.

FROM the "American Labor Year

Book, 1926", we learn that the percentage of factory workers employed on the basis of the eight-hour work day, from 11.8 in 1914 to 46.1 in 1922. Actually the figure reached in 1921 was 51.5. The slight fall is attributed to the weakened condition of the workers' organizations and the great slump in 1921-1922. In 1924 the average working week amounted to 47.6 hours for bakers, 43.9 for building trades workers, 57.7 for chauffeurs, 56.7 for teamsters and drivers, 45.2 for longshoremen, 44.0 for granite and stone trades, 46.7 for metal trades, 48.1 for laundry workers, 46.9 for line men, 44.8 for factory workers, 44 for printers for publishing houses and 45.4 for newspaper printers.

These figures taken together give a total average of 45.9 for the selected trades. In 12 States the employment of women for more than eight hours a day is forbidden. The United States Women's Bureau states that in those states where no legislation regarding hours is in force women are often employed for more than ten hours a day. Of the total number of employed women, 34.2 per cent work nine hours per day from Monday to Friday, and 25 per cent longer hours than nine per day.

## РУССКО-ПОЛЬСКИЙ ОТДЕЛ

### В отделе.

Во вторник 28-го декабря в Народном Доме, 315 Нот-10-ая, состоялось собрание членов Русско-Польского Отдела Союза Польских.

Самым важным вопросом повестки дня — происходила борьба в вопросе. Секретарь сделал доклад о членстве, привнес в историю борьбы в членстве членства. Как доклад секретаря, так и сам вопрос вызвали дискуссию и объяснению дискуссию, затронувшую доводили. Ораторы в своем разном высказались — докладом членов Р.-П. Отдела стоять в стороне или же присоединиться к одной из сторон.

Когда дискуссию начал председатель в такой форме, секретарь обратился к членам с предложением о постановке вопроса и указал, что вопрос не о при-

соединении с той или другой стороной, так как мы пока еще не знаем и не знаем от этих учреждений, а мы имеем законным членом Джеймсом Борда в Интернационала, а вопрос должен быть в том, одобрен ли мы действия Джеймса Борда. По окончании дискуссии была принята единогласно следующая резолюция:

Члены Русско-Польского Отдела одобряют вопрос о присоединении к членству в Интернационале Русско-Польскому Отделу официально присоединиться к какой-либо стороне, т. е. Д. Е. или Интернационалу, мы считаем вопрос неправильным постановленным. Мы не можем решить вопрос о присоединении раньше нежели мы узнаем из того учреждения, которого мы являемся членами в котором производят законно избранные нами представителя, а потому мы отменяем с законом избранным Джеймсом Борда в Интернационале до следующего собрания в котором и тем же образом производят раскол и получают два мнения, тогда мы будем решать к какому мнению нам присоединиться, пока же рекомендуем своим членам стоять дружно с рабочими и мастерами для защиты своих прав от эксплуататоров.

Собрание решено назначить ответ с прошлой партией в Р. П., так как он не был помещен полностью в Докторе, но мы не секретаря, а редактора, но мы не можем дать нам призыва редактора.

A. M. Cayser.

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## Boot & Shoe Workers' Union

Affiliated with the American Federation of Labor  
244 SUMMER STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

COLLIS LOVELL  
General President  
CHARLES E. BAINE  
General Secretary-Treasurer

## The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

In the presence of fully 2,000 cloak and dress cutters, the officers elected in the recent annual election of Local 10 were installed last Monday night, December 27th, in Cooper Union. The occasion was marked, in addition to addresses delivered by International and local officers, by speeches made by representatives of the American Federation of Labor, Vice President Matthew Woll and New York Organizer Hugh Frayne.

Woll and Frayne brought messages of cheer and a pledge of support in the present drive of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union to rid its organizations of Communist domination which has all but ruled them. In ringing tones a dress cutter, speaking from the floor, appealed to the members to help the International drive out the Communist 'fakers' from our union. "Let us fight united for a better healthier union governed by the members and for the members." Following this appeal he introduced a resolution which was unanimously adopted by a rising vote, in which the members pledged themselves to this end. (The readers will find this resolution in the news pages of this issue.)

Then Dubinsky turned the glow over to the veteran master of installations, Brother John C. Ryan, who, following a few brief remarks on the remarkable showing of loyalty by the cutters, administered the oath of obligation. The 2,000 men in the hall rose like one person in solemn union.

### A. F. of L. and International Leaders Cheered

The big gathering of cutters reaffirmed their loyalty to the International and the local and pledged their continued support for the maintenance of their union based upon the ideals and principles of trade unionism.

Concerning this was no doubt in the mind of Vice-president Matthew Woll, who in his opening words said that he esteemed it "an extreme honor and privilege to address the members of the cutters' union." "I have for many years watched the progress and the struggles of the men and women in your industry," he stated, "and after all my observation of your rise from the old sweat-shop conditions to the highest standards that now prevail, my admiration has been unchanged again and again."

"And in it I have found the great truth of organization, the great lesson of wage earners setting aside their individual thoughts and politics and combining themselves for a common purpose and common end on the economic field through the trade union. This is my first occasion to address you in all my years of work with the American Federation of Labor. It is a happy occasion to stand here with you in the presence of the officers just elected by you to carry on the hopes, ideals and ambitions that inspired you at the very inception of your organization and with you pledge our unequivocal support to the maintaining of these ideals and principles."

Hugh Frayne was the first to step upon the speakers' platform. A few moments later following him was Matthew Woll. The entrance of both of these leaders of the American labor movement occasioned prolonged cheering and applause lasting several minutes. President Morris Sigman and Manager Dubinsky were also given rousing receptions upon their entrance.

President Sigman arrived somewhat late due to his presence at a conference with the Jobbers. While he

could not make any definite report on the progress of these conferences, nevertheless, he stated that the prospects for a settlement are fair and these prospects, he said, involved principally the elimination of non-union production.

His address was very brief. He declared that he appreciated very much the rising of the cutters in his honor and their applause. But what he was most interested in, he declared, was the task that is facing the cutters. "You must place yourselves in the position of the pioneers who must rebuild the cloakmakers' union in New York and place it back on that level of respect and prestige that it enjoyed prior to the time when these hoodlums (Communists leaders) made a mess of it."

"I am looking forward to this assistance from you. I have no doubt that you will do your share and that you will do it honestly, conscientiously and with the spirit of a real bona-fide trade union. In concluding, I wish to state that I extend heartfelt greetings to your membership and your officers. You are not only the pride of our International but I am sure that the cutters' local is the pride of the American labor movement also."

Benjamin Schlesinger, former president of the International, and at present one of the vice-presidents of the International Union Bank, had also been invited by Manager Dubinsky to speak. But in a message received from him he stated that he was indisposed and could not attend.

### Cutters Give Answer To Communist Lies

The outgoing president, Brother Philip Ansel, opened the meeting and in a few brief remarks thanked the members for the cooperation they had given him during his chairmanship of the local for the past four years. He announced that the chair would be conducted temporarily by Manager Dubinsky who in announcing the purpose of the meeting said that "never in the history of our local, or in any local in the International, has such a large proportion of members participated in an election. Out of 4,000 members, over 2,100 responded to the call. Out of 2,100 ballots cast nearly 1,900 were for the administration, which is 90 per cent of those who participated. This is an unmistakable vote of confidence in the administration. This is an answer to all the lies of the deposed Communist leadership. To all their attempts to ruin or rule Local 10."

Holding up in his hand a sample of the malicious lies in the form of a leaflet mailed out to some members of Local 10, Dubinsky said that a number of cutters had asked him the question: Where did they get my address? He recalled the fight made by the so-called 'lefts' against giving the cutters a separate hall in the recent strike. The plans comprising this

## Important Notice To All Cutters!

CUTTERS ARE INFORMED THAT THEY MUST SECURE THEIR WORKING CARDS IN THE OFFICE OF LOCAL 10 ONLY. ANYONE WHO SECURES A CARD ELSEWHERE WITHOUT THE SIGNATURE OF THE OFFICE OF LOCAL 10 OR OF THE INTERNATIONAL, WILL BE CONSIDERED AS HAVING CANCELLED HIS AFFILIATION WITH LOCAL 10.

refusal and the registration of the cutters for the alleged purpose of conducting the strike, were plans made prior to any thought about the strike. "They used the Registration not to follow up scabs or those who did not report in the halls—they used it to give it to the Workers' Party. This answers the question of many of you with respect to the source of the addresses."

### American Federation of Labor Pledges Support

"I bring you a message," declared Hugh Frayne, New York Organizer of the American Federation of Labor who was introduced as the first speaker, "of good will from the American Federation of Labor of which you are a loyal part." He furthermore expressed his pleasure over the fact that there is a Local 10 of loyal cutters in New York City at this time. "You men," he added, "have much to do. Because of the great loyalty you have shown you will be called upon to bear possibly a greater burden."

Vice-president Matthew Woll in the course of his address to the men, said that within the last six months he had become familiar with what had been going on in the needle trades. "I shall not attempt tonight to express with words of condemnation those who may seek to destroy your splendid organization, those who are seeking to undermine the foundation upon which the great American labor movement is founded. Their dogmas are as fallacious as they are false to the best interests of the workers."

(The readers of the cutters' page are referred for additional details of Woll's and Frayne's speeches to the news pages of this issue of "Justice.")

### Messages Greet Membership

A number of other speakers had been invited, one of whom was already mentioned, Brother Benjamin Schlesinger, and the other, from whom a message was received, the secretary-treasurer of the International, Brother Abraham Baroff. The Philadelphia cutters, Local 50, also wired greetings. Executive Board Member Koop being prevented by some difficulty from attending the obligation, wired greetings. Some of these messages follow:

Dear Brother Dubinsky,

I am extending congratulations to you and to the newly-elected executive board of your local union. In this hour when you are being installed into office I am happy to find that the membership of Local 10 in all these years have retained the responsibility placed in them as union men and have not lost their heads and have not permitted anyone to mislead them and so maintained their union on a firm basis. Due to ill health I

regret very much my inability to be present with you. With fraternal greetings.

ABRAHAM BAROFF.

Dear Brother Dubinsky,

The cutters of Local 50 of Philadelphia congratulate you and all officers of Local 10 upon your election. Convey to our brothers of New York that we are with our International body and soul in the effort to rid our union of the Communists. Cutters were always loyal to the end. Long live Local 10! Long live our International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. S. WINICK, Chairman of the Cutters' Branch, Local 50.

### Manager Informs Members About Wage Increase and Assessments

During the past week, and since the decision by the General Executive Board calling upon the members to register, Brother Dubinsky has been besieged with questions on this score and questions regarding assessments and dues. He told the men that the letter for registration was sent out to the members of all the locals, that is, of 2, 3, 9, 10, 23, 35 and 48.

Placing Local 10 on the list for this letter was a mistake, the manager said. This applies only to the locals that are now being re-organized. Local 10's reorganization problem concerns but a few individuals. Hence, the question of re-organization is completely eliminated in so far as the cutters are concerned.

A good many of the members were also concerned with the \$10 strike assessment now still in effect. Dubinsky said that some cutters had paid \$20, other \$10, and still others \$5 towards this assessment, and some had paid nothing thus far. This obligation will have to be made to apply equally to all. The executive board will therefore bring in shortly a recommendation on this point.

"The manager wished it clearly understood that the old Joint Board is no longer functioning and that its officers are not to be recognized by the membership of the International. No dues, assessments or any form of contribution are to be paid to the Joint Board or to any of its deposed leaders or agents. All payments, including assessments and dues, are to be paid directly to Local 10 or the International. Members were also warned against attending meetings called by the Joint Board, whether for shop purposes or otherwise."

With regard to the increase announced some time ago and secured from the Industrial Council, this is to go into effect, the manager said, in the first week in January. From next Monday on, cutters in the Industrial Council shops are to get a flat increase of \$2. In the case of cutters who may be receiving \$65 or more, this will be a matter for individual bargaining. Other cutters who do not receive a flat increase of \$2 should report it to the office of Local 10.

The \$2 flat increase granted by the Industrial Council is automatically applicable to all the cutters of the American Association and Independent shops as well. Cutters should insist upon receiving this increase and upon failure to receive it, are to report it to the office, as the office will enforce it in all the shops.

## IMPORTANT

Cutters of Coney Island and Bath Beach Sections!

An open forum of cloakmakers, arranged by the Trade Union Group of Cloakmakers, will take place at the Boardwalk Hotel, 3033 West 22nd Street, Coney Island, on

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 1926, at 2 P. M. SHARP

Manager Dubinsky will speak on the present situation of the Cloakmakers' Union. A discussion will follow. All cutters as well as other cloakmakers of this section are urged to be present.